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THE MIRACLE DEVICE - SHAMIR

BY DR. MATEST M. AGREST*

In many ancient texts a miracle device called the Shamir is mentioned. It was used in lapidary work to make seal engravings on very hard stones and for cutting large stones in quarries for use in building the Temples in Jerusalem where iron tools were forbidden to be used.

The most ancient of such texts known to the author are the following:

- The Treatise "Abot" of the Babylonian Talmud (the beginning of the first age AD).In Chapter 5 it is written: "Shamir" was created in the six days of the world creation."(It was unbelievable that such a miracle device had been constructed by man).

- The "Mishnajot" treatise "Sotah" (the beginning of the second age AD). It is written in Chapter 9 that "when the (second) Temple was destroyed the Shamir ceased".

- In the "Sotah" 48b, of the Babylonian Talmud (III-V, age AD)it is written that Moses brought the Shamir from the desert to make the Ephod (breastplate) for the high priest Aaron according to the covenant: "Then take two lazuli stones and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel". (Exodus 28,9). "On the two stones you shall make seal engravings - the work of a lapidary - of the names of the sons of Israel".(Exodus 28,11).To fulfill these covenants was very complicated because it was forbidden to write and save the names of the Israeli sons in ink. It was written: "engrave on them...." At the same time it was forbidden to use any iron tools while making the Ephod. For this work Moses brought from the Desert a special device - Shamir. As it is written in the Babylonian Talmud "Sotah" 48 B: Firstly the names of the Israeli sons have been written on the lazuli stones in ink, then they were shown to the Shamir and the places of the ink on the stones were engraved (the work of lapidary was burned out).

- In the treatise "Gitin",68-69 of the Babylonian Talmud (III-V, ages AD) it is written that Solomon used the Shamir for building the (first) Temple. As stated in the Book I Kings, VI, 7: "And the house when it was in building was made of stones made ready at the quarry (there was neither hammer, nor ax, nor any tool of iron heard in the house while it was in building)". Solomon said to the Rabbis: "How shall I manage without iron tools?" They replied. "There is the Shamir, which Moses brought for the stones of the Ephod...", and Solomon obtained it from Ashmedai, the Prince of Demons.

More than 30 years ago I realized that the Shamir had the same ability as that of the contemporary laser, the discovery and construction of which was one of the distinguished achievements of science and engineering. Therefore, in some of my lectures I appealed to scientists to investigate all historical sources about the Shamir.

Let us investigate here the historical reality of all that has been written about the Shamir. First, we note the historical reality that the Ephod existed more than a thousand years from the time of Moses.Millions of Jews saw the two stones attached to the shoulder pieces of the Ephod worn by the high priests.To many of them it was known that the names of the 12 sons of Israel on the lazuli stones of the Ephod had been engraved by means of a miracle device, the Shamir.

We further note the historical reality of the existence of the two Temples in Jerusalem and that they had been built without using any iron tools. Also by means of the miracle device, the Shamir. These essential questions remained: Who constructed the Shamir? Where did Moses get the Shamir? Who invented the Shamir more than three thousand years ago? The first similar device, the laser, was constructed by T.H. Maiman in 1960 AD. The answer to all these questions may be - the extraterrestrial visitors to Earth!

This means that in the time of Moses there was a paleocontact and Moses was given the device for generating laser rays along with instructions for its use. The Shamir was destroyed along with the destruction of the second Temple of Solomon.

*This article is based upon the author's pamphlet entitled "The Ancient Miracle Device Shamir", published and copyrighted in 1995, which will be the subject of Dr. Agrest's lecture at the 24th Anniversary World Conference of the Ancient Astronaut Society to be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Orlando, Florida August 3-8, 1997.

Dr. Agrest, a PhD in Science, Physics and Mathematics, is the author of over 100 scientific articles and 5 monographs on the subjects of mathematics, physics and astronomy. In his Astronauts of Yore, published in 1961, Dr. Agrest was the first scientist to advance the theory that Earth had been visited in prehistoric times by intelligent beings from outer space. In 1959 Dr. Agrest worked out his own hypothesis about a visit of extraterrestrials to Earth many years ago.Studying the first chapters of Genesis in the Bible and the corresponding pages of the Zohar, he concluded that modern translations of the word "nefilim" as "giants" were incorrect and that "nefilim" should be translated as "the fallen ones." Hence, instead of "Giants were on the Earth in those days" the passage should be read as "Nefilim, fallen on the Earth, were on the Earth in those days."

In 1992,after 22 years as Chief of the University of Leningrad's Science Laboratory, Dr. Agrest retired and emigrated to the United States. He lives at 1635 Wallenberg Blvd., Apt. 201, Charleston, SC 29407 USA.

MORE ON THE SHAMIR - ANOTHER VIEW

BY THOMAS H. ALFRED FUSS*
Translated from the German by George T. Sassoon

In Jewish mythology there are memories of a "magic worm", known as the "shamir",which was used to build Solomon's Temple, among other tasks. According to the traditions it was a diamond drill, but not of earthly construction - it came from the workshops of the legendary "Watchers of Heaven". Could this provide the answer to the puzzle of the boreholes of Abuzir in Egypt,and of the technology used in other mysterious buildings around the world?

The Temple pyramid of Sahura at Abuzir dates from the Old Kingdom, 5th Dynasty, ca. 2475-2345 BC. Mysterious boreholes can be seen in several of the hard diorite stones around the Temple which could easily be taken for modern borings. (See Figure 1). But how could this be? There is absolutely no mention of diamonds, or diamond drills, or well-developed drilling technology from the time of the Old Kingdom.

Figure 1. Core boreholes in hard diorite stone at Abuzir, Egypt, with part of core visible that was not fully extracted. Photo by the author.

A possible solution is to be found in the traditions of the neighboring Jewish culture.In the Talmud (Mischna Avot 5/9) I came across the description of an object said to be "a legendary being of a mineral nature",but from the characterization and the way it was used it appears to have been more in the nature of a tool. The Jewish legends speak of a "worm that could bore through the hardest minerals." It was called the "shamir" and was described in the Talmud (Pesachim 54a)as a "cutting-worm" and in the Zohar (74a,b) as a "metal-splitting worm". Although these names speak quite plainly,the Bible goes further and describes it as a "diamond": "The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond (shamir)...." (Jeremiah 17:1).

According to all the information available, this "diamond cutting-worm" was not an everyday object and accessible to anyone, but was some kind of a "divine tool",only rarely entrusted to human hands. This could well be a possible explanation for the fact that, in the minds of ancient oriental people, precious stones were materials from the world of heaven; this led later to the religious use of jewels for carving into images of deities, or for decorating buildings dedicated to them.

Under instructions from Moses, the shamir was employed by two so-called "stone-cutters", Bezaleel and Aholiab, from the tribes of Judah and Dan, to engrave the stones on the High Priest's breastplate (the Ephod):"And the stones shall be with the names of the children of Israel,twelve,according to their names, like the engravings of a signet...." (Exodus 28:21).These men were just two of many who had been prepared and trained from the beginning for the construction of the so-called Tabernacle and its equipment: "And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom...." (Exodus 28:3). "Then wrought Bezabeel and Aholiab and every wise hearted man,in whom the Lord put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary ...." (Exodus 36:1).

"Wisdom"and "understanding to know-how" were needed as much in those days as they are today for skilled hand work.The authors of the Old Testament would not have told us this - that the Lord put "wisdom and understanding" into the men - unless some special training was needed. Had normal earthly techniques been used, no "heavenly" instruction would have been called for. The training was necessary only because some hitherto-unknown technology was being used: in this case, the maintenance and use of the "divine" diamond drill, the shamir.

The following report on the use of such a"cutting-worm" tells us that the shamir came in different models and sizes: "When King Solomon had the Temple of the Lord built, on the instructions of Yahweh none of the available metal tools were to be used in preparing the necessary stone blocks: "Neither hammer nor chisel nor any iron tool were allowed. For the shamir did split everything, so that no other equipment was necessary for the work."(Zohar 74a,b).

Already cut precisely to size by a shamir, the stones arrived at the actual building site ready for immediate use:"And the house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool heard in the house, while it was in building." (1 Kings 6:7). Further, in this instance the "cutting-worm" did not come from a human's tool-chest, but was made by an Earth-dwelling "Watcher of Heaven" by the name of Asmodai. According to the Juedische Lexikon (Vol.IV,1982): "Shamir: (..., in the Bible: thorn, barb, hard diamond), the legendary worm which Solomon is said to have used for building the Temple, for splitting the stones, so as not to contravene the regulation: 'if you build me an altar of stones, build it not from hewn stone, for when you have swung the iron against it you have profaned it'....the legend tells us that Solomon in his unlimited wisdom and knowledge of nature had discovered in the shamir a worm as small as a barleycorn whose power could cut the stones...."

These tools, which obviously came in different sizes for engraving, drilling and cutting, all generally known as "shamir", could also provide an explanation for the innumerable and apparently inexplicable works of stone to be found all around the globe: in Tiahuanaco, Puma Punku, Sacsayhuaman, Anatolia, and elsewhere. Obviously, the gods were operating busily long before Moses' time and not only in Israel. The Egyptian Kingship Myth reports how the god Set was cutting rocks, and the borings at Abuzir provide a much-discussed indication that this "magic worm" did once actually exist. Perhaps the earliest literary mention of its use by the strangers from space is to be found once again in the Bible: "And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon Mount Sinai, two tablets of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God." (Exodus 31:18) ...or was it written with the shamir?

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*This article is excerpted from the original article published in the German Edition of Ancient Skies 1/1997. Mr. Fuss's address is Wiesenerstrasse 64, D-12101 Berlin, GERMANY.

[Translator's memo: I came across the "Shamir" many times in my research for the book The Manna Machine. Some sources describe it as an "insect", which I think must be a mis-translation of the Latin "in-

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sectator", "cutter-in". Insects have cut-in bodies, hence the name. The description "worm" is natural; worms make holes. As to how the Israelites acquired the shamir, they were after all in Egypt erecting the pyramids, according to their own account, and surely there is nothing new about workers stealing tools from building sites. George T. Sassoon.]

SENSATIONAL FIND IN RUSSIA

BY HARTWIG HAUSDORF*
Translated from the German by George T. Sassoon

For many years researchers in the ancient astronaut field have been suggesting that artifacts left by extraterrestrial visitors to Earth might be found in geological deposits. Much evidence has been found from apparently paradoxical events in the Earth's history that genetic manipulation experiments have been carried out over hundreds of millions of years by extraterrestrials, which culminated in the creation of humankind.

Unfortunately any discovery of possibly technical artifacts from ancient times would seem to be very unlikely. For the geological events of only the last million years are documented today in a mere few centimeters of sedimentary strata. Even as regards very recent events - I am thinking of the end of the Second World War - we are aware of how quickly technical objects can disappear. Weapons, ammunition and even large objects are almost completely rusted away and disintegrated after only 50 years.

In view of this, the finds made recently in Russia are all the more astonishing. In the years 1991-1993, gold prospectors on the small Narada River, on the eastern side of the Ural Mountains, have found unusual, mostly spiral-shaped objects. The size of these things ranges from a maximum of 3 cm (1.2 inches) down to an incredible 0.003 mm, about 1/10,000th of an inch! To date, these inexplicable artifacts have been found in their thousands at various sites near the three rivers, Narada, Kozhim and Balbanyu, and also by two smaller streams named Vtvisty and Lapkhevozh, mostly at depths between 3 and 12 meters (10 and 40 feet).

The spiral-form objects are composed of various metals: the larger ones are of copper, while the small and very small ones are of the rare metals tungsten and molybdenum. Tungsten has a high atomic weight and is also very dense, with a melting point of 3410 degrees C (6100 degrees F). It is used principally for the hardening of special steels and in unalloyed form for the filaments of light bulbs. Molybdenum also has a high density and a respectable melting point of 2650 degrees C (4740 degrees F). This metal too is used for hardening steels and giving them corrosion properties, these being used principally for highly-stressed weapon parts and vehicle armor.

At the present time, these more-than-mysterious objects are being investigated by the Russian Academy of Sciences in Syktyvka (capital city of the former Soviet Republic of Komi), Moscow, St. Petersburg, and also a scientific institute in Helsinki, Finland. Exact measurements of these often microscopically-small objects have shown that the dimensions of the spirals are in the so-called "Golden Section" ratio, or "phi proportion". Since ancient classical times this fraction has been the "iron rule" in architecture and geometry. Its usefulness is in the fact that if a certain length is divided into two using this ratio, the ratio of the original length to the larger piece is the same as that of the larger piece to the smaller piece.

Quite apart from such subtleties, these objects are obviously the product of an inexplicable and highly advanced technology; they bear remarkable resemblances to control elements used in miniature devices in our very latest technology, so-called nanomachines. This technology is still in its infancy with us, but already engineers are thinking of applications which appear to be pure science-fiction. Among other things, they envisage constructing micro-probes for use in medicine which can be implanted, such as for carrying out operations inside blood vessels which are not possible with present surgical techniques.

All tests carried out to date give an age for the objects of between 20,000 and 318,000 years, depending on the depth and the situation of the site. But even if it was only a mere 2,000 or 20,000 years, we are faced with the inevitable question: who, of all the people in the world, was at that time capable of creating such superfine micro-filigree objects, something which our own technology is only now just beginning to achieve?

[Ed.Note: For more on the subject of technological objects having been found in geological strata that are millions of years old, see Michael A. Cremo's Forbidden Archeology. The book is available from Torchlight Publishing, P.O. Box 177, Badger, CA 93603 USA. Tel: 209-337-2200. Fax: 209-337-2354. Mr. Cremo will be a speaker at the Society's World Conference in Orlando, Florida August 3-8, 1997.]

VAUGHN M. GREENE's The Six Thousand Year-Old Spacesuit is now available in a Revised Edition. Dedicated to the "Members of the Ancient Astronaut Society whose fresh thinking is bringing life to the dusty Halls of Archeology," the oversized paperback is available from the author at 548 Elm Avenue, San Bruno, CA 94068 USA. Phone: 415-589-4224. The price is US$13, which includes surface postage.

FINAL CALL FOR THE EXCITING 24th ANNIVERSARY WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY AT THE ADAM'S MARK HOTEL IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA AUGUST 3-8, 1997. Twenty-two speakers will present a wide range of fascinating topics in our field, many slide or video illustrated. The Conference will feature optional excursions to Disney World and Kennedy Space Center, model flight demonstrations, a well-stocked book store and a Gala all-you-can-eat Buffet Banquet. The Conference hotel is offering special reduced room rates during the event and for the four days before and after the meeting. Rooms are being reserved on a first-come, first-served basis, so make your reservation with the hotel without delay. For complete information write, call or fax today!

*This article was originally published in the German Edition of Ancient Skies 2/1997. Mr. Hausdorf is the Manager of a Travel Agency in Burghausen, Germany. A world traveller, he was the first westerner to obtain permission from the Chinese to enter into certain "no-go" areas containing dozens of large pyramids, thus confirming the existence of such structures previously only rumored. He has written innumerable magazine articles and three books, all in German. Mr. Hausdorf will be a speaker at the 24th Anniversary World Conference of the Ancient Astronaut Society to be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Orlando, Florida August 3-8, 1997. He will present slides and a video on the Chinese pyramids and on the strange Bayan-Kara-Ula stones. His address is Frank-Caro-Strasse 94a, D-84518 Garching a.d.Alz, GERMANY.

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IN SEARCH OF THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

BY DR. ROBERT GOODMAN*

During his stay on Mt. Sinai, Moses was instructed to build a box to safeguard the Tablets of the Law (The Ten Commandments), written on slabs of stone by Jehovah (God).According to the Bible,the acacia wood box was about 42 inches long, 27 inches wide and 27 inches high and was completely covered inside and out with gold. According to sacred texts, the Ark also held the rod of Moses's brother, Aaron, and a container filled with manna. Two cherubs of beaten gold were placed at each end of the lid. Their faces were turned towards each other, their wings outstretched and their eyes turned towards the propitiatory (the mercy seat destined for Jehovah). The Ark was placed in the tabernacle, a kind of mobile temple, carried by the Israelites on their wanderings towards the Promised Land. Only the High Priest could enter this enclosure once a year, on the day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). According to the Bible, the Israelites carried the Ark to Jerusalem and placed it in the "Holy of Holies" in the Temple of Solomon. After that, what happened to the Ark, one of the most sought after objects in history, is still a mystery.

Archaeologists, authors and scholars in general have scrutinized ancient texts, analyzed myths and legends and have carried out numerous excavations in search of the Ark, but without success. Some say they know the exact location of the Ark of the Covenant - it is in Egypt, in Israel, in Ethopia, in Spain - but the Old Testament indicates that there is only one authentic Ark, so it will be interesting to see who the lucky person is who finds it.

The Ethiopian Hypothesis: A recent best-selling book about the strange powers and possible location of the Ark relates a legend that the Israeli King Solomon sired a son by the Ethiopian Queen of Sheba. The child, Menelik I, lived in Jerusalem with his father until age 19 and when he returned to Ethiopia, he carried with him a replica of the Ark, which Solomon had made for him. Menelik, however, secretly exchanged the copy for the original, which he took to Africa. The author, Graham Hancock, stated that he had traced the original Ark to the Church of Saint Mary of Sion in Asum,Ethiopia, where it is guarded by an almost blind caretaker, who would not let Hancock see the Ark, nor let him ask questions about it, for fear of provoking the wrath of the Lord. Thus the quest ended. So much for the Ethiopian hypothesis.

The Israeli Hypotheses: The author, Randall Price, echoes ancient Rabbinic archives where it is stated that the Ark was taken out of the Second Temple and hidden in an unknown location beneath the wood store of the Temple. An old Hebrew text, Shekalim 6:1-2, narrates that one day a priest noticed that some of the floor slabs in the wood store were of a different color. When he began to comment on this to another priest (so it is written), he fell dead. The defenders of the Israeli Hypothesis argue that this confirms that the Ark was in the Second Temple.What is certain is that in the year 70 AD the Temple was destroyed and the Jews were dispersed throughout the world, leaving the area of Mount Moria and the Ark in foreign hands. Thus the treasure has been buried for more than 2,000 years and Price declares that there is a tunnel leading to a chamber where the Ark is hidden some 48 feet under the surface.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, excavations were carried out along the side of the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem. Some Rabbis claimed that the Ark is there. Rabbis Shlomo Goren and Yehuda Getz say they know the exact location of the Ark and are waiting for the right time to reveal it, although it also has been reported that they said they have not themselves seen the relic. It is not possible at this time to confirm this hypothesis because the present government has sealed the area that leads to the supposed location of the Ark.

Rabbi Getz is reported to have contradicted his previous statement and said in an interview on Australian TV that he had seen the exact place where the Ark is located. A viewer wrote to Getz and asked him to confirm his statement and supposedly received an answer from the Rabbi in which he stated that he did know the exact position of the Ark but that it was a "very delicate affair and we are not prepared to spread this information to just anybody."

On another front, the American archaeologist Ron Wyatt, stated that he has seen the Ark in Jerusalem in the Grotto of Jeremiah, which is on a privately-owned farm. The owner led Wyatt to the site and offered to sponsor an excavation. Wyatt claimed that on January 6, 1982 he found the chamber that contained the Ark and other items pertaining to the First Temple under the hill of Golgotha, the place where Christ was crucified.

In 1994, Dr. Vendyl Jones, a Texas archaeologist, (the model for Indiana Jones) announced to the press that he knew the Ark's exact location, thanks to NASA photos of Israel. After three months of excavating at the site, Jones concluded that the area was a small scale reproduction of Solomon's Temple. Apparently the Ark itself was not unearthed.

The Spanish Hypothesis: According to Jose Maria Kaydeda, a Spanish researcher and writer of a book about the Ark, the missing relic is in the Spanish city of Toledo, hidden in the lowest floor of a five story building which is beneath a synagogue. The building was apparently located after intensive bibliographic research, but due to the lack of funds, Kaydeda had to abandon the search.

The Egyptian Hypothesis: A recent box-office hit has the Ark located near the pyramids in Cairo, Egypt, but this is Hollywood fiction. However, now another location in Egypt has come forth as the resting place of the Ark through the medium of channelling of a tormented spirit called Mosec. Supposedly he was entrusted with stealing the Ark and transferring it to another site under the orders of a religious sect, but contrary to orders, he opened the Ark and was killed instantly and his assistants and the Ark were buried in a sand storm. Now, hundreds of years later, Mosec's spirit wants to make amends and reveal the location of the lost Ark.

Only one of the many hypotheses can be correct, but a very good clue would be the effect the discovered object had on the health of the people finding it. The High Priests of ancient Israel wore special garments whenever they went near the sacred Ark. While apparently for ritualistic purposes, it could have been for protection against an unfathomed energy source, such as radioactivity. It is written that two of Aaron's sons died when they entered the Tabernacle after the Ark had been placed there, and their corpses were removed from the camp for burial. Moses must have been afraid of something. Later, when the Ark fell into the hands of the Philistines, they returned the Ark back to the Israelites and by the will of Jehovah, 50,070 men of Bet-Semesh were struck dead because they looked into the Ark. Whoever finds the authentic Ark must take this biblical evidence into account because the Ark of the Covenant could well be a Doomsday Pandora's Box.

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The Twenty-eighth Annual MUFON INTERNATIONAL UFO SYMPOSIUM will be held on July 11-13, 1997 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Info: MUFON 1997 Symposium, 3628 Aragon Drive, Lansing, MI 48906-3508.